ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES

OF THE

Thirtieth Annual Session

OF THE

NEW RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

HELD WITH

UNITY CHURCH,

October 13, 14, 15 and 16, 1900.

G. W. GRAVLEE, Moderator. . . Newtonville, Ala.
J. E. Cox, Clerk . . . . . Fayette, "
W. B MELTON, Treasurer. . . . . Fayette, "
S W. CLEMENTS, Cor. Sec'y, . . . New Lexington, "

The next session of this Association will be held at Concord Church, commencing on Saturday before the 2nd Sunday in October, 1901.

FAYETTE, ALA.
BANNER JOB PRINT.
1900.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Devotional Exercises.
2. Read Constitution, Articles of Faith and Rules of Decorum.
3. Presentation of Letters from the Churches.
4. Election of Officers.
5. Call for Petitionary Letters.
6. Invite visiting Ministers not Delegates, to seats.
7. Receive Correspondence, also Return Correspondence
8. On Missions.
9. On Sabbath Schools.
10. Hear Treasurer's Report.
11. Appoint Treasurer.
12. Appoint Special Committees.
    1. On Religious Exercises.
    2. On Documents.
    3. On Nominations.
    4. On Finance
    5. Call for Report of District Meetings.
    6. On Temperance.
    7. On Religious Literature.
    8. On Orphans' Home.
    9. On Prayer and Prayer Meetings.
    10. On Ministerial Education.
    11. On Miscellaneous Business.
13. Read and Correct Minutes, call Roll and adjourn.

MINUTES.

UNITY CHURCH,
FAYETTE COUNTY, ALA., Oct. 13, 1900.

On Saturday, October 13th, 1900, the New River Baptist Association met with Unity Church, Fayette county, Alabama, at 11 o'clock a. m. The introductory sermon was preached by Elder J. S. Townsend from Tim. 3:15. The sermon was instructive. After the sermon, the congregation was dismissed for refreshments which were served on the premises, in great abundance, for the people and beasts. Each one did justice to the occasion.

At 2:30 p. m. the delegates reassembled in the commodious church house, and after signing, Scripture reading, and prayer, Rev. G. W. Gravlee, former Moderator, called the Association to order, for permanent reorganization. Rev. J. S. Shirley and brotner S. W. Clements acting as reading clerks, and the letters from the churches were placed on the table, as names were called. The letters were then read by the clerks, and names of churches and delegates were enrolled as follows:

Absentees marked thus.*

Salem: S. W. Clements, Tom Kelley,* W. B. Davis.

Friendship: Eld. W. J. Blankenship. J. H. Mebarg and R. R. White.*

Philadelphia: Elder J. S. Townsend. T. J. Garrison and W. B. Dobbs.*

Shepherd: Eld. G. W. Gravlee, P P. Mayfield* and R. L. Sudduth.*

Rocky Mount: J. R. Agerton,* W. S Bobo and C. P. Taylor.

Pilgrim Rest: J A. Freeman, W. J. Nelson and G. W. Freeman.*

Concord: J. C. Poe, G. W. Black, J. M. Doughty.

Rehobeth: Eld. B T. Sellman,* W. F. Nichols, and W. F. Meadows.

Pleasant Grove: J. R Palmer, A. M. Lowrey,* and J. Henderson *

Mt. Lebanon: J. F. Willis, J. F. Holliman and D. J. Ballenger.

Pleasant Hill: J H Newton,* M. E. Chambliss and D. I Chambliss.*

Bankston: J. H Willimgham, L. B. Harbin and T C. Griffin *

El Bethel: Eld. W. F. Gilpin, J W. May and W. J. Hassell.

Liberty: W. E. Gardner, L A. Gardner* and T B. Gardner.*

Mount Pleasant: Eld. G H. White, R M Olive and I W. White

Unity: Elds. J. S. Shirley, A N Reeves and brother J M Keenum

Macedonia: Eld J. E Cox, S N Lindsey and John A South *

Fayette Church: J M. Stewart, W. B Melton and E. P Goodwin.

Fayetteville: Not represented

Shady Grove: Not represented.

At this juncture Rev A N. Reeves challenged the seats of delegates from Mt Lebanon church, on the ground that said church was not in harmony with the Association, whereupon a committee of five, consisting of J E. Cox, G H White, G. W. Black, W S Bobo and J. S Shirley, were appointed to investigate the validity of said challenge.

Eld W. S. Waldrop, of Yellow Creek Association, and brother J. M. Stewart, acting as tellers, the Association permanently organized, by electing Elders G W Gravlee and J. E. Cox, Moderator and Clerk, respectively, and Sam W. Clements, Corresponding Secretary.

The Constitution, Articles of Faith and Rules of Decorum were read by brother S. W Clements, at the request of the Moderator.

Petionary letters for admission into this Body were called for, and brethren J. M. Stewart, E P. Goodwin presented a letter from Fayette, a new church organized in the new town of Fayette. The Moderator extended the hand of welcome to these brethren

On motion, the Moderator was empowered to appoint the following committees:

On Documents: A N. Reeves, W F. Nichols, W. J. Blankenship, I. W. White, J. M Doughty.

On Arrangements: J. S. Shirley, S. L. Raney and W. J. Hassell.

On Nominations: J. M. Stewart, C. P. Taylor and J. H. Meharg.

On Literature: A. N. Reeves, W B. Melton and J. H. Willingham.

On Education: J. S. Townsend, E. P. Goodwin and Sam. W. Clements.

On Orphans' Home: W. F. Gilpin, R. R. White and S. N. Lindsey.

On Finance; John A. Freeman. J. C. Poe and J. M. Keenum

Correspodents. from sister Associations with which we correspond, were called for:

From Yellow Creek—Elder Silas N. Waldrop and W. J. Cunningham were welcomed by the Moderator.

Returned Correspondence: To the Yellow Creek, Elds. A. N. Reeves, J. S. Shirley, W. F. Gilpin and brother J. G. Jones.

On motion, adjourned until 9 o'clock a. m. tomorrow, (Sunday).

The congregation was led in prayer by brother J. H. Meharg.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1900.

The report of the Committee on Sunday Schools was called for and read by W. F. Nichols, Chairman.

Your Committee on Sunday Schools submit the following report:—We did not meet in Convention as requested by this Body in its last session, yet we feel the importance of the wonderful work done by the Sunday Schools. We simply neglected our duty. We recommend this Body to appoint, as it did last session, a Sabbath School committe, composed of one member of each church of this Association, to work a Sabbath School in every church, using the Sabbath School Literature published in Nashville, Tenn , by Southern Baptist Convention. W. F. NICHOLS, Ch'n.

Pending the adoption of the report, speeches were made by W. F. Nichols, H. T. Shirley, T. J. Garrison, G. H. White and others.

The report was adopted, and the following is the Committee: Shepherd, P. P. Mayfield; Pleasant Hill, J. H. Newton; Concord, J. S White; Fayette, John M. Stewart; Fayetteville, Arthur Nuckols; Macedonia, W. D. White; Shady Grove, Sam. South: ElBethel, J.

G. Jones; Rehobeth, W. F. Nichols; Rocky Mount, W. F. Shackelford; Friendship, J. H. Meharg; Unity, H. T. Shirley; Salem, S. W. Clements; Pleasant Grove, J. R. Palmer; Pilgrim Rest, J. A. Freeman; Mt. Pleasant, R. T. Beard: Liberty, W. A. Gardner; Bankston, J. T. Willingham; Philadelphai, G. W. McGinnis.

At 11 o'clock on Sunday, Rev. G. W Gravlee, (the appointee to preach at this hour,) after reading the Scripture lesson, and prayer, read a text from Luke 24:47. He was at his best, and preached a good sermon to a large and attentive congregation; after which, a collection for Missions was taken, amounting to $5.65. The Body then adjourned until 8 o'clock a. m. Monday. Prayer by W J. Blankenship.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1900.

Delegates assembled pursuant to adjournment, at 8 o'clock a. m. The Body was called to order by the Moderator, and, after song service, was led in prayer by Rev. J. S. Townsend.

On motion, Rev. G. H. White was granted leave of absence on account of sickness in his family.

On motion, a Committee on Deceased Ministers was appointed, consisting of Elds. J. S. Shirley, J. S. Townsend, and Deacon L. B. Harbin.

The Committee appointed to investigate the validity of the challange, as to the rights and seats of Mount Lebanon delegates as members of this Body, (after suspending the regular order of business) reported:

Your Committee, appointed to investigate the ground and validity of the challenge, refusing rights and seats of delegates of Mt. Lebanon church, as members of this Association, submit the following report: Whereas, at the request of 15 or 16 members of Mt. Lebanon church, who claimed to be aggrieved by a majority of said church, did appoint committees at the sessions of 1898 and 1899, to visit said church and investigate the cause of said grievance, and, whereas, said Mt. Lebanon church rejected said committees, and by resolution, ignored the authority of the Asso-tion to appoint such committee, refused to let the matter and cause of said grievance be investfgated, therefore, it is the sense of this Committee, that, inasmuch as said church defied the authority and ignored the act of the Association and rejected said com-

mittees, the ground of challenge was reasonable, and validity of the challenge indubitable. We suggest that this Body drop from the roll, the name of Mount Lebanon church, on account of her persistent refusal to respect the authority of this Body to advise as to methods, and labor through committees, in bringing peace and union, when and where needed in our churches. This is painful, but in our judgment, it is the only alternative. Fraternally,

G. H. WHITE,
J. H. SHIRELEY,
G. W. BLACK,
W. S. BOBO,
J. E. COX,
Committee.

On motion, the report was unanimously adopted.

RESOLUTION AND RECOMMENDATION.

See page 7 1898 Session page 6-1

Whereas, the brethren and sisters, whose names are hereunto subscribed, were excluded from Mt. Lebanon church for signing their names to the memorial, asking for the appointment, by this Association, in 1898 and 1899, of a committee to investigate the cause of an aggrievance, claimed by them, inflicted by the majority; and, whereas, we think said brethren and sisters were wrongfully excluded, and are left without any source of redress or restoration to church fellowship; therefore,

Resolved, That the New River Baptist Association, now in session, recommend these brethren and sisters, as worthy the confidence and Christian fellowship of any of our churches, and advise any Baptist church, to which they may apply for admittance into fellowship, to receive them without letters, or, that they may be organized into a local church, provided the cause of Christ demands such organization. Names: J. E. Kirkland, Kate Kirkland, J. N. Collins, E. E. Collins, E. G. Norris, M. J. Norris, A. B. Stanley, Mavis Collins, Laura Blakeney, Jane Collins, H. D. Collins; all of whom are worthy, zealous Christian men and women. SAMUEL W. CLEMENTS, Ch'n.

REV. M. W. OLIVE.

Report of Committee on Deceased Ministers was called for, read and adopted, as follows:

Whereas, since the last meeting of this Association,

God, in his providence, has removed from us, by death, our beloved brother, Rev. M. W. Olive, who was a faithful member of Shady Grove church; therefore, resolved, that a faithful minister of Christ, a noble Christian and a shining light has fallen, and, that this Body as well as his church, feel deeply our loss; yet, we feel that his noble life and labors will live on, in the lives of others. Our brother is not dead but sleepeth.

J. S. TOWNSEND, Ch'n.

DEACON W. B. SHIRLEY.

Whereas, God has seen fit in His wisdom, to call home our beloved brother, W. B. Shirley, since the last meeting of this Body, and, whereas, we realize that we have lost one of our safest counsellors, the Church one of its best disciplinarians, the community one of its most honored citizens, and the family and relatives a friend, tried and true; Therefore, be it resolved, that we express our deep sympathy with Unity church, of which he was an honored member, his family, relatives and friends, in their sore bereavement, and bow in humble submission to the will of God.

W. F. GILPIN.

On motion, the above resolution was adopted.

DISTRICT MEETINGS.

Reports of District Meetings were read and adopted as follows:

The First District met with Liberty church on Friday before the 1st Sunday in September, 1900, and located the next session with Pleasant Hill church, 4 miles east of Fayette, to commence Friday before the 1st Sunday in September, 1901; Elder W. G. Baker to preach the opening sermon, Elder J. J. Patterson, alternate.

1st Query: What is the duty of a church to her pastor? and what the duty of a pastor to the church? opened by J. H. Newton.

2nd Query: What are the duties of the Deacons in their churches as taught in the Bible? opened by J. D. Thomas.

3rd. Query: Are we, as Christian parents, responsible for the Bible training of our children? If so how can we most succesfully reach them? opened by J. S. Townsend. We locate the next session of this Asso-

ciation at Concord church, 13 miles south of Fayette, to begin on Saturday before the 2nd Sunday in October, 1901. J. S. TOWNSEND, Moderator.
J. R. GLADDEN, Clerk.

The Second District convened with Friendship church Friday before the 2nd Sunday in September, 1900, and located the next session at Rocky Mount church, beginning on Friday before the 2nd Sunday in September, 1901, W. F. Gilpin to preach the opening sermon, S. L. Raney, alternate.

1st Query: Should quries discussed by this Body be answered? opened by J. H Davis.

2nd Query: What is meant in 1st John, 1; 8 and 10? opened by A. N. Reeves.

3rd Query: What are the best means of giving the Gospel to the world? and what is the responsibility resting on the churches for the performance of this duty? opened by W. M. Olive.

4th Query: What is meant in Matt. 4:3-10 inclusive? opened by J. S. Shirley. J S. SHIRLEY, Mod'r.
G. W. FREEMAN, Clerk.

On motion suspended regurlar order of business, and received brother M. B. Morrow, with letter and Minutes from our sister, the Sipsey Association. In said letter, our sister informs us that the Holiman-Oak Ridge matter had been investigated by a committee of said Sipsey Association, and the said Oak Ridge church recinded the act of receiving J. T. Holiman into her fellowship without a letter from Rocky Mount church, from which the said Holiman had been excluded. Also, requesting this Body to investigate the act of Rocky Mount church in the exclusion of said Holiman, which she did, and found no error in discipline or act in said exclusion.

Returned Correspondence: To Sipsey Association, Elds. G. W. Gravlee, Frank Wilson and W. J. Nelson.

Reports of the following committees, after deliberate discussion, were adopted:

MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

We, your Committee on Ministerial Education, make the following report: Since there has been no appli-

cation to your Committee for aid, nothing has been done. However, we recommend that churches in our union take up collections during the year for this important work, the same to be sent to the Ministers' fund of Howard College. A. N. REEVES, Ch'n.

ON MISSIONS.

Your Committee on Missions submit the following report: There has been no Mission work done in our bounds. We find there are Mission funds in the hands of the Treasurer, amounting to $43.72, and feel sure that the entire amount pledged last session would have been paid, had Mission work been done—or begun. As we believe the work is greatly needed, we recommend that the Board prosecute the work, and call a meeting and ascertain from the various churches of this Body at once, the amount they can pay to prosecute the work in our bounds We find that our State, Home and Foreign fields need help, for the need of work increases, as well as the need of funds.

Not having learned from statistics the amount paid, we recommend that the Treasurer be instructed to pay all Mission money now in his hands, to the different Secretaries of Boards—as contemplated by those who paid the funds, as requested by this Body.

J. S. SHIRLEY, Ch'n.

ON DOCUMENTS

Your Committee on Documents have examined the papers placed in our hands, and find nothing to claim our attention, except a reference in the letter from Pleasant Hill church, asking through her Messenger, for a little more time in the J. W. Hosmer offense, promising to bring that matter to a terminus in the near future. We therefore recommend that said request be granted. Respectfully submitetd,

A. N. REEVES, Ch'n.

There were several speeches, pending the adoption of the above report, in which was manifest that nothing short of a public confession of wrong to Rocky Mount church, and a retraction of charges brought against this Body and its ministers, through the Texas Baptist Standard, said retraction to be published in said paper, in which said charges were made, will ever set the said J W. Hosmer right with this Association. The report was adopted.

ON EDUCATION.

Your Committee on Education feel the need of bringing up our children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, and future usefulness in society at large, and to obtain this end, in connection with home-training, we must patronize our Denominational schools, to-wit: Howard College for our sons, and the Central Female College, and the Judson Institute for our daughters. J. S. TOWNSEND, Ch'n.

ON NOMINATIONS.

Your Committee on Nominations submit the following report: Eld. J. S. Townsend to preach the opening sermon, next session of this Body, G. H. White, alternate; W. J. Akin to preach at 11 o'clock on Sunday, W. F. Gilpin, alternate.

Mission Board: W. H. Terry, Ch'n, W. F. Nichols, J. R. Agerton, W. J. Hassell, J. S. Shirley, J. A. Freeman, J. R. Gladden.

On Ministerial Education: A. N. Reeves, W. F. Gilpin and G. H. White. We also recommend that all our Mission work be submitted to said Mission Board, named in this report. J. M. STEWART, Ch'n.

RETURNED CORRESPONDENCE.

To Sipsey Association: Elds. F. Wilson, G. W. Gravlee, and brethren W. B. Melton and W. J. Nelson.

To Harmony Grove Association: Elds. W. J. Blankenship, A. N. Reeves.

Messengers Elected to State Convention: J. E. Cox and A. N. Reeves

To Southern Baptist Convention: G. W. Gravlee, J. P. Dickinson, alternate.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Received from Thos. E. Goodwin	$ 1	16
" for Minutes	19	40
" " State Missions		75
" " Association Missions	11	00
" " Home Missions	14	65
" " Foreign Missions	14	55
" " Association expenses	8	60
" " Orphans' Home	5	95
" " Expenses Delegates to S.B C.	7	90
" " Expenses " to State B.C.	4	06
" J S Townsend for Philadelphia church	5	00

Received from J S Shirley for Unity church..	$ 5 00
" " W F Gilpin for ElBethel church	5 00
" " J H Meharg for Friendship ch'h	5 00
Total	$108 02
Disbursed as follows:	
To J. E. Cox, for Minutes	19 40
To W B Crumpton, Sec'y State Mission Board	
To State Missions	75
To Home Missions	14 65
To Foreign Missions	14 55
To J E Cox, Clerk	8 60
To Orphans' Home	5 95
Total disbursements	$ 63 90
Balance on hand as follows:	
For Association Missions	32 16
For Expenses of Delegates to S. B. C.	7 90
For Expenses of Delegates to State B. C.	4 06
Total on hand	$ 44 12

W. B. MELTON, Treas'r.

W. B. Melton was reappointed Treasurer.

Brother M. E. Chambliss, on motion, was granted leave of absence.

On motion, adjourned for dinner, so hospitably and plenteously spread.

At 1 o'clock p. m the delegates reassembled, and after devotional services the Body was called to order by the Moderator, and the report of the Committee on Temperance was called for, and, after earnest discussion by a number of speakers, was adopted as follows:

We, your Committee on Temperance, submit, that we see but little advancement along the line of Temperance, as regards intoxicants, and the whiskey traffic is alarming in the bounds of this Association. We would recommend the churches of this Body, to adopt such rules as will exclude those who persist in dram-drinking, and drunkenness. If church members would abstain from every appearance of evil, drunkenness would cease in our churches. We, therefore, urge prohibition. Bretheren, the time has now come, when God's people should take a firm stand against this evil, and for God and Christianity.

W. B. MELTON, Ch'n.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

Your Committee on Finance report as follows:

For Minutes	$16 50
For State Missions	1 15
For Home Missions	14 50
For Foreign Missions	1 15
For Association Expenses	9 00
For Orphans' Home	4 20
Total	$46 50

Respectfully submitted,
JOHN A. FREEMAN, Ch'n.

RELIGIOUS LITERATURE.

Report of Committee on Religious Literature was called for, read, and after speeches by a number of brethren, the report, on motion, was adopted:

Your Committee, recognizing the powerful influence of literature over the minds of our people, feel that too much stress cannot be placed on the importance of selecting the best reading matter for ourselves and families. We first recommend the Bible, then the Alabama Baptist, and especially would we ask the brethren to take the Foreign Mission Journal and the Home Field, and the Sunday School Literature published by the S. S. Board of the S. B. C. We also recommend the Texas Baptist Standard. Respectfully submitted, A. N. REEVES, Ch'n.

On motion, adjourned until Tuesday, 8 o'clock a. m. Prayer by W. J. Blankenship.

TUESDAY, 8 O'CLOCK A. M.

The Body met pursuant to adjournment, and, after prayer, led by brother M. B. Morrow, the Moderator called the Association to order.

The report of the Committee on Orphans' Home was called for, read, and feelingly discussed by W. F. Gilpin, A. N. Reeves, H. T. Shirley and others (the writer, telling what he knew about our own John W. Stewart, the Manager) and, after a contribution of $6.20, the report was adopted as follows:

Your Committee on Orphans' Home, at Evergreen, Ala., would report, that we regard this Home as an institution of great importance, which should be liberally supported by this Body.

Respectfully submitted, W. F. GILPIN, Ch'n.

CORRESPONDING LETTER.

The New River Association to her sister Associations with whom she corresponds—Greeting:

We are now in session, harmoniously, and are glad to welcome your Messengers, who are seated with us. The next session of this Body will be held with Concord church, 13 miles south of Fayette, Ala., on Saturday before the 2nd Sunday in October, 1901, when and where we hope to welcome your Messengers, again. We will say to sister, that her request relating to the Rocky Mount church has been complied with, to the best of our understanding. Fraternally,

SAMUEL W. CLEMENTS, Cor. Sec'y.

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED.

Resolved, That the Clerk be instructed to have as many copies of these Minutes printed as the Minute fund will pay for, and distribute them to each church according to amount paid by each church, and that the Clerk have for such service the Association fund, which is $9.00. W. S. BOBO.

(The brethren increased the Clerk's fee to $10.01.)

Resolved, That this Body tender its sincere thanks to Unity church and community for the princely manner in which they entertained it while with them.

(Adopted.) S. W. CLEMENTS.

There being no further business, the Minutes were read and corrected, names of delegates called and absentees marked.

An appropriate hymn was sung, the parting hand given, and the Body was led in prayer by Elder A. N. Reeves. Thus ended the 30th session of the New River Baptist Association, which was in many respects very sweet. Benediction by the Moderator.

G. W. GRAVLEE, Moderator.

J. E. Cox, Clerk.

CONSTITUTION.

ART 1. This Association shall be composed of members chosen by the different churches in our union, who on producing letters, shall be entitled to seats.

ART. 2. This Association shall be known by the name of the New River Baptist Association, which shall have the privilege to enact and carry out missionary purposes in all their bearings; yet so that churches and individual members are left free, and that giving or withholding shall not be a bar to fellowship.

ART. 3. To give churches the best advice she can in all matters of difficulty, and if the union be broken between any of the sister churches to inquire into the cause of the breach and use her best endeavors to remove the difficulty; but if the breach cannot be repaired, to withdraw from any church or churches which she may look upon as being unsound in principal or immoral in practice untilthe same be reclaimed.

ART. 4. The churches in our union shall transmit to every annual session of the Association a written communition, specifying the names of their delegates, their number in fellowship, baptized, received by letter, restored, dismissed, excommunicated and deceased since the last session of the Association, the state of their Sabbath Schools and prayer meetings, and the number of ordained ministers and licensed preachers, with their postoffices which shall be read and minuted accordingly.

ART. 5. Every church in our union shall be entitled to representation in the following manner: Each church shall be entitled to send three delegates and no more, Any church failing to represent herself as above prescribed, shall state her reasons at the next session.

ART. 6. The Association thus formed a majority of the members present shall choose by ballot a Moderator and Clerk, who shall serve one year.

ART. 7. Churches may be admitted into this union who petition by letter and delegates and upon nomination, if found orthodox and orderly shall be received by the Association, which shall be manifested by the Moderator giving the right hand of fellowship.

ART. 8. Every query sent up to the Association by any church in the union, shall be read and put to a vote by the Moderator whether it shall be debated, and if there be a majority for it, it shall be taken up and investigated, but if not shall be withdrawn; provided, always, that those be first considered which affect the union of the churches.

ART. 9. Voting shall be confined exclusively to the body in all acts respecting their internal concerns.

ART. 10. The Association shall not adjourn any session until she shall have finished all the business on hand, except in extraordinary cases.

ART. 11. The minutes of the Association shall be read and corrected, if necessary, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the session rises.

ART. 12. The Association shall, in all cases, be governed by a majority of the members presents.

ART. 13. Amendments to this Constitution may be made at any session of the Association when a majority of its members present shall deem it necessary

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

1. We believe there is one only true and living God, and three persons in the Godhead, the Father the Son and the Holy Ghost.

2. We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the word of God, and the only rules of faith and practice.

3. We believe in the doctrine of human depravity; that it disables man from keeping the law for life, and that man's recovery and final salvation depends entirely upon the provision which Christ has made, and offered upon the condition of faith.

4. We believe in the doctrine of election through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth,

5. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God, only by the merits of Jesus Christ.

6. We believe the saints shall persevere in grace, and not one of them shall finally fall away.

7. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and the general judgment, and that the joys of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal.

AS FOR GOSPEL ORDER.

1. We believe that the visible church of Christ is a congregation of baptized believers who have gained Christian fellowship with each other, and have given themselves up to the Lord, and one to another, and have agreed to keep a godly discipline according to the rules of the Gospel.

2. We believe that Jesus Christ is the great head of the church, and only law giver, and that the government is with the body, and is the privilege of each individual; and that the discipline of the church is intended for the reclaiming of the Christian who may be disorderly either in principle or practice, and must be faithfully kept up for God's glory and unity of the churches.

3. We believe that baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Jesus Christ, and that true believers are the only proper subjects, and conscientiously do believe the true mode of baptism is immersion.

4. We believe that none have the right to administer the ordinances but ministers of the Gospel, regularly ordained to that office.

5. We believe that none but those regularly baptized have a right to participate in the Lord's Supper.

RULES OF DECORUM.

1. The Association shall be opened and closed by prayer.

2. To expedite business, committees may be appointed at the direction of the Association.

3. The Moderator shall be deemed judge of order, and shall have the right to call to order at any time, and any brother not satisfied with his decision on any point of order, may appeal to the Association, on the same day, but at no other time.

4. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the Association, except withdrawn by him who made it.

5 Every case taken up by the Association shall be decided or withdrawn before another shall be offered.

6. Every person who shall speak in debate shall rise from his seat and address the Moderator, and not be interrupted while speak-

ing, unless he depart from the subject, or use words of personal reflection.

7. The Moderator, when addressed for leave to speak, shall signify the right of the applicant by naming him or otherwise.

8. No person shall speak more than twice on the same subject, without leave of the Association.

9. No member shall be tolerated in any practice which tends to interrupt public speaking.

10. Any person wishing to retire shall obtain permission from the Moderator.

11. The Moderator shall give the casting vote, and shall be entitled to the same privilege of speaking as any other member, provided he appoint another to his seat during the time.

12. The appellation of Brother shall be used in our address one to another.

13. The names of delegates shall be called as often as the Association may direct.

14. Any member violating the above rules may be reproved as the Association thinks proper, only on the day the offense shall have occurred

LIST OF ORDAINED MINISTERS.

Name.	Postoffice.
G. W. Gravlee	Newtonville
Frank Wilson	Hico.
A. N. Reeves	Ballard.
J. S. Shirley	Hugent.
B. T. Sellman	Hugent.
G. H. White	Davis Creek.
W. G. Baker	Bankston.
S. L. Raney	Hico.
G. W. Freeman	Fayette.
W. F. Gilpin	Hugent.
J. F. Willis	Fayette.
J. E. Cox	Fayette.
J. P. Dickinson	Fayette.
W. M. Olive	Machine.
W. J. Akins	Ballard.
W. J. Blankenship	Ballard.
J. S. Townsend	Ballard.
J. J. Patterson	Ridge.
J. S. White	Ridge.
J. W. Hosmer	Fayette.

NEW RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION—STATISTICS FOR 1900.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	CLERKS.	POSTOFFICE.	Sunday Meetings	Baptized	Received by Letter.	Restored	Excluded	Died	Dismissed by Letter	Total	Minute Fund	Association Fund	State Missions	Home Missions	Foreign Missions	Association Mission.	Orphans' Home.
Bankston	A N Reeves	J T Willingham	Bankston	4	1	..	..	..	1	1	52	1 25	50					
Concord	I R Collins	T J Black	Ridge	4	3	3	..	..	2	1	118	1 00	50					4 30
El Bethel	W F Gilpin	G T Hassell	Hugent	1	..	5	..	5	1	3	67	1 50	50	1 15	1 15	1 15		
Fayetteville	Not represented	Arthur Nuckols	Fayette	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Fayette	J P Dickinson	W B Melton	Fayette	*	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	1 50	1 00	..	..	..	..	..
Friendship	J S Townsend	J H Akins	Ballard	4	1	..	..	..	1	..	109	1 00	50	..	..	2 85	5 00	1 85
Liberty	J J Patterson	J V Montgomery	Bankston	3	1	..	..	..	1	..	35	25	75	..	..	..	..	..
Macedonia	J E Cox	S N Lindsey	Fayette	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	27	50	50	..	..	25	..	25
Mount Pleasant	G W Gravlee	J B Lokey	Davis Creek	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	94	1 50	50	..	..	..	..	..
Pleasant Hill	W G Baker	E B Newton	Fayette	4	1	5	..	..	1	4	53	75	50	..	2 00	..	5 00	..
Pleasant Grove	S L Raney	J Henderson	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	37	25	75	..	..	..	..	..
Philadelphia	W G Baker	I B Deavors	Handy	1	..	..	..	2	1	3	38	75	50	..	..	..	5 00	1 30
Pilgrim Rest	W M Olive	J A Freeman	Hico	2	4	..	2	..	..	..	99	1 10	50	..	..	..	..	2 10
Rocky Mount	F Wilson	W S Bobo	Fayette	4	..	2	..	..	4	1	69	1 00	50	..	..	..	..	..
Rehobeth	B T Selman	W F Nichols	Hugent	2	1	5	..	..	..	..	44	75	25	..	..	..	..	..
Salem	J B Ferguson	W F Dawson	New Lexington	4	9	4	5	2	2	..	72	1 00	50	..	2 12	..	..	2 13
Shepherd	G W Gravlee	P P Mayfield	Newtonville	1	6	..	..	..	..	..	59	25	50	..	..	..	..	..
Shady Grove	Not represented	..	Bankston	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Unity	A N Reeves	H T Shirley	Ballard	3	..	..	..	3	2	1	84	1 50	50	..	4 25	6 50	5 00	3 00
**Hold services each Sunday.			Total	31	26	7	13	16	14		1,053	$16 35	$ 9 25	$ 1 15	$ 9 52	$10 75	$20 00	$11 93